Dear Mrs. Weisberg, 8/6/00

We have not corresponded for some time, not because I have forgotten you, but because I had nothing more to assist your and Harold's efforts to bring out the truth.

Last week a lady named Karen Abbot from Philadelphia sent me an email concerning our favorite senator, Specter. She claims to be writing a book "loosely based on Specter", and found my homepage while searching the internet for "specter conspiracy." I can't see her being pro-Specter as what my homepage says about him would lead any supporter to get as far away as possible.

I have exchanged emails with her, and offered Harold Weisberg and Vince Salandria as the real Specter experts. At her request I mailed her my copy of POST MORTEM, as having the most Specter material of all Harold's books. She should have the book early this week, and has promised to call me as soon as her work on the GOP convention is over. She apparently writes for, or is associated with PHILADELPHIA WEEKLY, which I suppose is a paper or magazine. I gave her your address in Frederick and told her that any letters will probably be handled by you, as Harold has been in poor health.

Ms Abbott's address is 505 Williamsburg Way, King of Prussia, PA 19406.

I enclose a copy of my letter to Karen Abbott so that you will know what I said. I think that she will get in touch with you. Also, I enclose a print of that part of my homepage that deals with Senator Scum.

I sincerely hope that Harold is well, and you likewise.

Bill Thomson

Karen Abbott
505 Williamsburg Way
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Bill Thomson
2046 Devon Lane
Erie, PA 16509

Dear Karen,

Enclosed is POST MORTEM, which is the Weisberg book that has the most about Arlen Specter. He has written many others, mostly about the JFK assassination, although 1, FRAME UP, deals with the murder of Martin Luther King. As I mentioned in the email, Harold is 85, if he is still alive, and has been in shaky health for several years. The last correspondence I had with the Weisbergs was answered by Lilian, who was handling his affairs, including the mailing of his books. I stopped writing, not because of any lack of interest, but because I could offer him no new material, and I felt that the limited time and energy of these two people could be better used with those who might add to his knowledge.

Harold was one of the very early critics of the Warren Report, and one of the most effective, largely because of the total and detailed research he devoted to his work. I think he began in later years to concentrate much of his efforts to discrediting Specter because the man was in public life, and could be attacked face to face. When I confronted Specter in Aliquippa, PA several years ago, there were two others present who attacked him concerning the JFK affair. My skirmish with the newspaper was irritating, as their reporter, who did a fair job in general, never spoke to me, but called my attack "bizarre". The paper finally did publish my shorter letter, but the original longer letter was more specific as to why Specter had developed a totally unreal theory to blame Lee Oswald for Kennedy's murder.

I don't know if your interest in Specter is largely concerned with the JFK murder, but I believe that the man's successful career stems from his egregious lies when he was a Warren Commission lawyer. Given my belief, and Harold's belief, that the man is a felon, and should be in prison instead of the Senate, I cannot accept any of his subsequent actions as right.

I mentioned Vince Salandria in my email. Again, I don't know if Vince is still around, but I sincerely hope that he is. His early work on the JFK affair was published in RAMPARTS magazine, but I don't believe that he has ever written a book. Reaching his material on the web is a pain, because it seems to go through a lot of other sites. I linked to SALANDRIA on my homepage, but takes a while to reach his stuff that way. I suggest that you get in touch with him. When I spent an evening with him in 1968, he told me early on that he wondered if I were a federal agent, as he had been under investigation. As he, like Specter, is a Philadelphia lawyer, I'm sure that he tell you a lot about Specter. He was a consultant to Jim Garrison in the Garrison investigation that led to the trial of Clay Shaw.

Again, my interest in Specter is because of the Kennedy assassination. If your interest is also largely along those lines, I can give you all sorts of people to contact. At any rate, I'm glad to continue our conversations, by phone, email, or whatever. I also recommend that you be careful. Despite the numbers of people writing and talking about these things, they are the traditional "hot potato". I'm quite sure that my open expression of opinions

about the assassinations and the CIA cost me one very good job, and quite likely prevented me from getting another. I can't prove it, but there is no doubt in my own mind.

Best of luck in your career, and your proposed book. Take care.

PS: On reflection, I'm also sending a 22 page essay of my own on the JFK murder. It is not on the net, not because I don't want it there, but because I haven't worked out how to transfer documents from the hard drive to my page. I have to type everything in, and just have not found time. Whether the essay interests you, I can't say, but I have no objection to its being read by anyone who is interested.

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Headline 193

SHARKU 2--THE OLD MAN CONTINUES--DILLIGAF

Text 192

Sharku2 is just getting cranked up, but the future will see plenty--many people will say too damn much, but-DILLIGAF. I want to add some material on Vincent Salandria,who is deserving of deep respect for his work on the JFK murder, and is a hell of a nice guy too. Also, I will add a tribute to Fletcher Prouty, and a list of books for the thoughtful. Any student of the JFK murder must check the work of Harold Weisberg, who has been indefatigible in his pursuit of truth. Have patience, and return to sharkubill at your leisure.

Text 215

As I have mentioned before, I have not figured out how to make this page print paragraphs in the normal manner. Probably my own stupidity. Therefore, I will put "*******" at the end of each paragraph.

Text 197

Sharku2 will be dedicated to information on the assassination of John F. Kennedy. It is my opinion that this murder was the deciding act of the 20th century, as the murder of Abraham Lincoln was the deciding act of the 19th, so far as the United States of America is involved. And, God Damn It, we are involved with the whole fucking world. Please read this with an open mind. I gave you links to the real experts; now I give you a fairly short analysis, in my own words.

Headline 209

Sen. Arlen Specter, Accessory After the Fact

Text 210

Arlen Spector is the author of the infamous "single bullet theory" and is therefore an accessory after the fact in the murder of John Kennedy. He is also, God forgive Pennsylvania, our senior senator. Several years ago I confronted this man at a public forum in Beaver County, PA, and asked him, "Why aren't you in prison as an accessory after the fact in the murder of John Kennedy?" He said, "I'm not a murderer." I replied, "I didn't say you are. I said that you are an accessory after the fact. You concocted the single bullet theory, and the Warren Commission used it. You helped the real murderers get away, and you are an accessory." **********The newspaper article on Spector's forum referred to my question as "bizarre." I wrote to the paper, explaining that the bizarre thing was Spector's single bullet theory in which a bullet could hit 2 men, break 2 bones, and end up looking like new. The paper would not print my letter as it was "too long." I condensed it, resubmitted it, and it was printed. In the weeks after the printing of my letter, I found several letters much longer than my first version printed in the paper. Why was mine "too long?" Damn if I know.

Headline 211

LEGAL COMMENTS ON THE JFK ASSASSINATION

Text 212

No, Good Readers, despite the "shark" portion of his nom de plume, Sharkubill is not a lawyer. He has enough sins to answer for without that. The following is merely a commentary on certain vital legal matters in the JFK murder. You can find them all in other books, but it will take a lot of reading, and I offer it here as a quick view of how the men in high places can evade the law of the land--even as Specter has evaded being charged as he should be as an accessory after the fact in the crime of murder.

Headline 213

ALL AS ILLEGAL AS HELL, BUT A DONE DEAL

Text 214

In 1963 assassinating the president was not a federal crime. Today, it is. I believe that, in 1963, most Americans assumed that it was--not an unnatural assumption, but incorrect. The American legal system is unusual in that crimes not specifically assigned to the federal jurisdiction fall automatically to the state jurisdiction. Since 1963 legislation has been passed concerning assassinations and attempted assassinations of the president and of other officials. For example, in the attempts upon Presidents Ford and Reagan jurisdiction was automatically federal--because of the laws passed after the Kennedy assassination.******** When Kennedy was murdered in Dallas, jurisdiction of the crime was in the city and county of Dallas, in the state of Texas. The Secret Service job of protecting Kennedy ended in failure when he was killed, and their primary job became the protection of Johnson. Legally, the FBI could take jurisdiction only if the crime were interstate--or if there was reasonable evidence that it was. Of course, the local authorities could ask for federal assistance, but they could not legally hand over the case to the FBI or any other federal organization. As can be discussed later, there was evidence to indicate interstate criminality (largely pushed under the rug), but primary jurisdiction was in Texas; responsibility for the autopsy, for any indictments, for any trial was in Texas, AND STILL IS.****** Removal of the body from the proper jurisdiction was, per se, illegal, and flagrantly illegal. This first totally illegal action automatically rendered the autopsy at Bethesda Naval Hospital illegal. The Dallas coroner was perfectly correct when he insisted that his office should perform the autopsy, and perform it in Dallas. From that point on, all actions of autopsy, investigation, etc were outside the law of the United States, and the men responsible were guilty of criminal actions.******In his book, CAUSE OF DEATH, Dr. Cyril Wecht says that, after Robert Kennedy was murdered in Los Angeles, federal officials tried to have the body shipped to Washington for the autopsy, but Coroner Thomas Naguchi was prepared for this and prevented it. Robert Kennedy's autopsy was performed where it should have been, by the coroner and his staff, and there is no doubt that it was done competently, as well as legally. So far as the investigation of the crime, that is another matter indeed. Wecht's book has also a comment on Arlen Specter and his magic bullet.*******Jim Garrison, whatever his faults and virtues, knew the law and was fully aware that his jurisdiction in the assassination of Kennedy would exist only if he could prove a connection between the murder in Dallas and his own Orleans parish in Louisiana. The fact that Oswald had lived in New Orleans and had engaged in some political activity there did not prove a connection with the killing. Garrison's initial investigation--a simple check on Oswald during his time in New Orleans--was quickly dropped as Garrison, by his own statement, accepted the lone assassination idea. It was his reading of the Warren Report that started him thinking about a possible Dallas-New Orleans link. (Garrison is not the only one whose doubts of the official concept began with reading the official report.) Once his team began digging the link was found. There was plenty of evidence that Oswald, while in New Orleans, had associated with such CIA linked people as David Ferrie, Guy Bannister, and a shadowy figure known as Clay Bertrand. Eventually, Garrison dug out evidence that "Clay Bertrand" was a New Orleans businessman named Clay Shaw, and that Shaw's New Orleans Trade Mart was the property of that curious company Permindex, a CIA front that had been expelled from Italy for its activities. Ferrie and Bannister were active in forming and training anti-Castro paramilitary groups for a possible invasion of Cuba and for continuing illegal harrassing raids on

Cuba.******Once Garrison had uncovered a conspiracy against Cuba (and against the flat orders of the US government) involving Oswald, he could make an interstate connection and give his office a legal case to prosecute--if he could find defendants. He found a defendant in Clay Shaw.******In my opinion, by trial time Garrison knew that his chance of convicting Shaw was poor. After the trial some of the jury said that a conspiracy was proven beyond doubt, but Shaw's part in it was not, and they had no alternative but to bring in a verdict of Not Guilty. Garrison had, however, done what I believe that he wanted to do, which was to prove that the assassination of John Kennedy was not the work of a lone nut, but the work ofa powerful group of conspirators who had, quite literally, got away with murder. Again, some of the jurors said that, if Garrison could have proved that Shaw was a CIA agent and part of the conspiracy against Cuba, there would have been a reason to consider his guilt. Lacking any such proof, they could conclude only that Garrison had prosecuted the wrong man, or at least had failed to prove the necessary connection.

Text 216

Remember that, as of Shaw's trial, the CIA had denied that Shaw had ever worked for them. Some years later, testifying before Congress under oath, Chester Helms of the CIA admitted that SHAW HAD INDEED WORKED FOR THE CIA. Garrison issued subpoenas for CIA officials, including former director Allan Dullles, but the Department of Justice refused to serve them. At the same time Garrison issued a subpoena for Gordon Novel (some think he was the "Umbrella Man" on Dealey Plaza), but James Rhodes, then governor of Ohio refused to serve it, and later refused to extradite Novel to Louisiana on a charge of burglary. Garrison's inability to bring important witnesses to court seriously damaged his case. In particular, the absence of CIA officials made it impossible to prove a connection between Shaw and the CIA.**** ****I can see no justification for the refusal by Ramsey Clark, Lyndon Johnson's Attorney General, to refuse to have Allan Dulles testify in court in a criminal case. Dulles was at the time a private citizen, even as you and I. I know of no law making a retired official of the US government exempt from the legal standards that bind the rest of us. Nobody else knows of such a law for the simple reason that there isn't one. In the case of Gordon Novel, he was not even a retired CIA director, merely a man wanted as a witness in a major murder and conspiracy case, and a man under indictment for burglary. I don't know if Novel was the Umbrella Man, nor if he took some part in the conspiracy, but it does seem that it would have been a good idea to let Jim Garrison ask him bout these matters in a legitimate court, under oath. It seems an even better idea for Garrison to ask Allan Dulles under the same conditions.****** I mean that it would be a good idea for the people of this country. It would, of course, been a very bad idea for the band of conspirators and murderers who had Kennedy killed and let the criminals escape. It's all in the point of view.

Link 196

HOME

Preview Finish

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Erie, PA 16509

Mr. & Mrs. Harold Weisberg
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Frederick, MD 21701

21701/9999